

(19)



(11)

EP 4 045 195 B1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention of the grant of the patent:
18.09.2024 Bulletin 2024/38

(21) Application number: **20824330.3**

(22) Date of filing: **13.10.2020**

(51) International Patent Classification (IPC):
B05C 17/005^(2006.01)

(52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC):
B05C 17/00503

(86) International application number:
PCT/IB2020/059586

(87) International publication number:
WO 2021/074777 (22.04.2021 Gazette 2021/16)

(54) **PASTE-LIKE MEDIUM APPLICATOR**

APPLIKATOR FÜR PASTENARTIGE MEDIEN

APPLICATEUR DE MILIEU PÂTEUX

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

(30) Priority: **16.10.2019 SI 201900197**

(43) Date of publication of application:
24.08.2022 Bulletin 2022/34

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Description

Field of Invention

[0001] The invention relates to a paste-like medium applicator for applying media such as silicones, polyurethane foams, etc., used as adhesives, sealing or insulating materials, etc., to flat surfaces.

Prior art

[0002] Many paste-like medium applicators are known from prior art, having an inlet opening for coupling with a paste-like medium container or a paste-like medium dispenser, and a plurality of outlet openings, through which the paste-like medium is applied onto a surface. Paste-like medium containers may be in the form of a cylindrical cartridge and provided with a plunger which, when activated, presses the paste-like medium out of a bag- or tube-shaped container. Applicators can be used in conjunction with gun-shaped tools for dispensing a paste-like medium. Using an applicator, a paste-like medium is evenly applied onto a surface. Due to their complex shape, applicators are made from plastics known from prior art and consist of at least two injection moulded pieces. When manufacturing an applicator, different pieces need to be assembled and bonded by gluing, welding or in another suitable way. This is time consuming and makes the production more expensive.

[0003] Document WO 2014/022880 A1 discloses an applicator nozzle for applying a viscous material to at least one surface, the applicator nozzle including: a hollow body defining an internal volume; a connector at a first end of the body for allowing a viscous material source to be connected to the applicator nozzle; and, a closed tip at a second end of the body, the tip including at least one surface engaging tip surface, wherein the tip is configured to allow a user to selectively remove one or more portions of the tip at respective positions along the at least one surface engaging tip surface to thereby define one or more openings in the tip, such that, in use, a viscous material supplied to the applicator nozzle by the viscous material source is directed to the one or more openings via the internal volume of the body to allow one or more beads of viscous material to be applied to the at least one surface from the openings.

[0004] Document US 2007/127978 A1 discloses a brush applicator having a tapered inner wall and inwardly extended flange inside of a nozzle, which secures a molded or crimped brush assembly. Two edge applicators apply a substantially uniform thin layer of adhesive or glue only on the edge surface of a workpiece. A first edge applicator applies glue through an exit and a second embodiment of the edge applicator has a roller with side flanges and with a reduced portion in-between. A flat surface applicator may have plural vanes and channels inside of two outer walls to distribute adhesive to a wider flat exit. A biscuit applicator applies glue on two side sur-

faces of elliptical slots that are formed by biscuit cutters. The glue flows through plural vanes or plural transversely positioned openings and passes to form two opposite layers of glue. A dowel applicator applies a thin substantially uniform layer of glue on the wall of a dowel-receiving hole prior to installation of dowel pins. The glue is applied using a cylindrical nozzle body with plural projections and a reduced diameter portion. A wet well prevents applicator from clogging by hardened glue. The wet well fits tightly over the cap and the entire inner space of the wet well is saturated with moisture/solvent from a water/solvent retainer. A viscous-material applicator dispenses a plurality of beads on the floor or on backside of the workpieces. The viscous-material applicator includes a nozzle that has a flat but wide exit at outlet end, wherein the nozzle has plural vanes or flow restraints to diverge the flow of adhesive to a wider outlet end that has a plurality of orifices.

[0005] Document DE 10 2014 113101 A1 discloses a folding nozzle in the form of an attachment to an application device that contains a nozzle designed for the application of component adhesives and sealants. According to the invention, an application device comprises a nozzle.

Technical problem

[0006] The technical problem is how to provide a monolithic paste-like medium applicator.

Solution to the technical problem

[0007] The technical problem is solved by a paste-like medium applicator comprising an inlet opening of the paste-like medium applicator, a plurality of outlet openings for applying a paste-like medium onto a surface to be treated, and a distribution channel for distributing the paste-like medium from the applicator's inlet opening to the outlet openings,

wherein the paste-like medium applicator is formed of a first elongated half-shell comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which the inlet opening of the applicator is disposed, and a second elongated half-shell comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which a plurality of outlet openings are arranged, wherein the side walls of the two half shells have at each open end an integrally shaped circular edge surface, which, in the working position of the applicator, abut each other so that the half-shells define a distribution channel, wherein the first and second half-shells are in each case on one of their longitudinal sides integrally connected by means of a film hinge and the first and second half-shells being respectively provided with latching elements with a barb and the second and first half shells being respectively provided with receiving elements for receiving the latching elements so that in the working position of the applicator each latching element with the barb is latched in the corresponding receiving element.

[0008] The advantage of the applicator according to the invention is its monolithic configuration. In the manufacturing process of the applicator various pieces need not be assembled and bonded to a final product, which results in lower production costs and shorter production time. The half shells of the applicator are moved from the open position to the working position by simply being folded around the film hinge and pressed against each other, so that the latching elements lock into the receiving elements, which can also be done by the end user before use.

Figure 1: Applicator in open configuration

Figure 2: Applicator in open configuration

Figure 3: Cross-section of the applicator in open configuration

Figure 4: Detail of a hinge connection of the applicator half-shells in a working position, cross-section

Figure 5: Detail of a connection between a latch element with a barb and a receiving element of the applicator half-shells in a working position, cross-section

Figure 6: Kit of parts comprising a paste-like medium applicator and an adapter

[0009] The invention is described in more detail in the following by way of various embodiments.

[0010] The technical problem is solved by a paste-like medium applicator 1 comprising an inlet opening 2 of the paste-like medium applicator, a plurality of outlet openings 3 for applying a paste-like medium onto a surface to be treated, and a distribution channel 4 for distributing the paste-like medium from the applicator's inlet opening to the outlet openings,

wherein the paste-like medium applicator is formed of a first elongated half shell 5 comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which the inlet opening 2 of the applicator is disposed, and a second elongated half shell 6 comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which a plurality of outlet openings 3 are arranged, wherein the side walls of the two half shells have at each open end an integrally shaped circular edge surface 7, which, in the working position of the applicator, abut each other so that the half-shells define a distribution channel, wherein the first and second half-shells are in each case on one of their longitudinal sides integrally connected by means of a film hinge 8 and the first 5 and second 6 half-shells being respectively provided with latching elements 9 with a barb and the second 6 and first 5 half-shells being respectively provided with receiving elements 10 for receiving the latching elements 9 so that in the working position of the applicator each latching element with the barb is latched in the corresponding receiving element.

[0011] The receiving elements can be formed in the form of elastic arcs 10, which are integrally shaped on the second 6 and first 5 half-shell, respectively, and a respective barb 11 is formed by an oblique surface 11a, such that, when the half-shells move from the open position to the working position, each barb 11 first rests on

the corresponding receiving element 10, the barb with its oblique surface 11a causing elastic deformation of the receiving element 10 and/or the latching element 9 with the barb when the half shells continue moving towards each other until the half-shells 5, 6 reach the final working position, in which the barb latches in the receiving element.

[0012] In a further embodiment, the receiving elements are formed in the form of recesses in the second and first half-shells, respectively, and the latching elements are formed by an elastic web, each barb being formed by an oblique surface such that, when the half-shells move from the open position to the working position, a respective barb first rests on the corresponding receiving element which, when the half-shells continue moving towards each other, deflects the elastic latch element with the barb, until the half-shells reach the final working position, in which the barb is latched in the receiving element.

[0013] A circular edge surface 7 of the first and second half-shell, respectively, is provided with at least one circular groove 13 and the circular edge surface of the second and first half-shells, respectively, is provided with at least one first circular ridge 12, such that, in the working position, the circular groove 13 and the first circular ridge 12 engage each other, thus ensuring a better seal between the two half shells 5, 6 and the suitability of the applicator also for higher pressures of the paste-like medium.

[0014] The first 5 and/or second 6 half-shells are provided at a respective bottom with a plurality of reinforcing ribs 14 arranged in a direction substantially perpendicular to each longitudinal side of the half shells so as to connect the opposite longitudinal sides. Their function is to increase the mechanical strength of the longitudinal sides of the half-shells. This reduces the pressure on the latching elements when the applicator is in use.

[0015] In its longitudinal direction, the applicator is provided at both ends with one spacer element 15 that allows an even application of the paste-like medium onto a surface.

[0016] The outlet openings 3 can be formed with different diameters, such that the outlet openings in the vicinity of the centre axis of the applicator are formed with a smaller diameter, while the diameter of the outlet openings increases with the distance from the centre axis. This ensures a more even application of the paste-like medium onto a surface to be treated, as the pressure of the paste-like medium during application is highest in the central axis of the applicator and gradually decreases downstream the distribution channel in the directions of the longitudinal ends of the applicator. The diameters of the outlet openings are selected as a function of the viscosity of the paste-like medium.

[0017] The paste-like medium applicator may be provided with receiving holes 16 for receiving auxiliary tools, such as scrapers, trowels, blades, side spacers, stroke limiters, etc.

[0018] The paste-like medium applicator is made from

plastic, preferably HDPE.

[0019] The inlet opening 2 of the applicator may be adapted for coupling with a paste-like medium container or a paste-like medium dispenser. Alternatively, the inlet opening 2 of the applicator may be formed in the form of a sleeve, the inner circular surface of which is formed by a step 17 for coupling with an adapter. An entry portion 18 of the inlet opening of the applicator may be configured in a way to be tapered to facilitate insertion of the adapter.

[0020] The invention further relates to a kit of parts comprising a paste-like medium applicator and an adapter 19 having an inlet opening 20 of the adapter, adapted for coupling to a paste-like medium container or a paste-like medium dispenser, and a tubular outlet opening 21 of the adapter, which is circumferentially provided with a second circular ridge 22.

[0021] When the adapter is inserted into the inlet opening of the applicator, the second circular ridge 22 engages the step 17 in the inlet opening 2 of the paste-like medium applicator, whereby the paste-like medium applicator is fixed in position on the adapter 19.

[0022] The axis of the inlet opening of the applicator is inclined at an angle of less than 90° with respect to the contact plane of the half shells in the working position in the transverse direction of the applicator. It is herewith ensured that, due to the rotating connection between the applicator and the adapter, that the applicator adapts to the working surface during use.

Claims

1. A paste-like medium applicator (1) comprising an inlet opening (2) of the paste-like medium applicator, a plurality of outlet openings (3) for applying a paste-like medium onto a surface to be treated, and a distribution channel (4) for distributing the paste-like medium from the applicator's inlet opening to the outlet openings,

wherein the paste-like medium applicator is formed of a first elongated half shell (5) comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which the inlet opening (2) of the applicator is disposed, and a second elongated half shell (6) comprising four side walls and a bottom, in which a plurality of outlet openings (3) are arranged,

characterised in that the side walls of the two half-shells have at each open end an integrally shaped circular edge surface (7), which, in the working position of the applicator, abut each other so that the half-shells define a distribution channel (4), wherein the first and second half-shells are in each case on one of their longitudinal sides integrally connected by means of a film hinge (8) and the first (5) and second (6) half-shells being respectively provided with latching elements (9) with a barb and the second

(6) and first (5) half-shells being respectively provided with receiving elements (10) for receiving the latching elements (9) so that in the working position of the applicator each latching element with the barb is latched in the corresponding receiving element.

2. The applicator according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the receiving elements are formed in the form of elastic arcs (10), which are integrally shaped on the second (6) and first (5) half-shell, respectively, and a respective barb (11) is formed by an oblique surface (11a), such that, when the half shells move from the open position to the working position, each barb (11) first rests on the corresponding receiving element (10), the barb with its oblique surface (11a) causing elastic deformation of the receiving element (10) and/or the latching element (9) with the barb when the half-shells continue moving towards each other until the half-shells (5, 6) reach the final working position, in which the barb latches in the receiving element.
3. The applicator according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the receiving elements are formed in the form of recesses in the second and first half-shells, respectively, and the latching elements are formed by an elastic web, each barb being formed by an oblique surface such that, when the half shells move from the open position to the working position, a respective barb first rests on the corresponding receiving element which, when the half shells continue moving towards each other, deflects the elastic latch element with the barb, until the half shells reach the final working position, in which the barb is latched in the receiving element.
4. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterised in that** a circular edge surface (7) of the first and second half shell, respectively, is provided with at least one circular groove (13) and the circular edge surface of the second and first half-shells, respectively, is provided with at least one first circular ridge (12), such that, in the working position, the circular groove (13) and the first circular ridge (12) engage each other, thus ensuring a better seal between the two half shells (5, 6) when the applicator is in the working position.
5. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterised in that** the first (5) and/or second (6) half-shells are provided at a respective bottom with a plurality of reinforcing ribs (14) arranged in a direction substantially perpendicular to each longitudinal side of the half shells so as to connect the opposite longitudinal sides.
6. The applicator according to any of preceding claims,

characterized in that the applicator is provided at both ends with one spacer element (15) that allows an even application of the paste-like medium onto a surface.

7. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterized in that** the outlet openings (3) are formed with different diameters, such that the outlet openings in the vicinity of the centre axis of the applicator are formed with a smaller diameter, while the diameter of the outlet openings increases with the distance from the centre axis.
8. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterized in that** the paste-like medium applicator may be provided with receiving holes (16) for receiving auxiliary tools, such as scrapers, trowels, blades, side spacers, stroke limiters, etc.
9. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterized in that** the paste-like medium applicator is formed of plastics, preferably PEHD.
10. The applicator according to any of preceding claims, **characterized in that** the inlet opening of the applicator is adapted for coupling with a paste-like medium container or a paste-like medium dispenser.
11. The applicator according to any of claims 1 to 9, **characterized in that** the inlet opening of the applicator is formed in the form of a sleeve, the inner circular surface of which is formed by a step (17) for coupling with an adapter and an entry portion (18) of the inlet opening of the applicator is configured in a way to be tapered to facilitate insertion of the adapter.
12. A kit of parts comprising a paste-like medium applicator according to claim 11 and an adapter (19) having an inlet opening (20) of the adapter, adapted for coupling to a paste-like medium container or a paste-like medium dispenser, and a tubular outlet opening (21) of the adapter, which is circumferentially provided with a second circular ridge (22).
13. The kit of parts according to claim 12, **characterized in that** the axis of the inlet opening of the applicator is inclined at an angle of less than 90° with respect to the contact plane of the half-shells in the working position in the transverse direction of the applicator.

Patentansprüche

1. Auftragvorrichtung (1) für ein pastenartiges Medium, umfassend eine Einlassöffnung (2) der Auftragvorrichtung für ein pastenartiges Medium, eine Vielzahl von Auslassöffnungen (3) zum Auftragen eines pas-

tenartigen Mediums auf eine zu behandelnde Fläche und einen Verteilungskanal (4) zum Verteilen des pastenartigen Mediums von der Einlassöffnung der Auftragvorrichtung zu den Auslassöffnungen,

wobei die Auftragvorrichtung für ein pastenartiges Medium aus einer ersten länglichen Halbschale (5), die vier Seitenwände und einen Boden umfasst, in dem die Einlassöffnung (2) der Auftragvorrichtung angeordnet ist, und einer zweiten länglichen Halbschale (6), die vier Seitenwände und einen Boden umfasst, in dem eine Vielzahl von Auslassöffnungen (3) angeordnet sind, gebildet ist,

dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Seitenwände der beiden Halbschalen an jedem offenen Ende eine integral gestaltete kreisförmige Randfläche (7) aufweisen, die in der Arbeitsposition der Auftragvorrichtung aneinander anliegen, so dass die Halbschalen einen Verteilungskanal (4) definieren, wobei die erste und die zweite Halbschale jeweils an einer ihrer Längsseiten über ein Filmscharnier (8) integral verbunden sind und die erste (5) und die zweite (6) Halbschale jeweils mit Riegeelementen (9) mit einem Haken versehen sind und die zweite (6) und die erste (5) Halbschale jeweils mit Aufnahmeelementen (10) zur Aufnahme der Riegeelemente (9) versehen sind, so dass jedes Riegeelement (9) mit dem Haken in der Arbeitsposition der Auftragvorrichtung in dem entsprechenden Aufnahmeelement verriegelt ist.

2. Auftragvorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Aufnahmeelemente in der Form von elastischen Bögen (10) ausgebildet sind, die an der zweiten (6) bzw. ersten (5) Halbschale integral gestaltet sind, und ein jeweiliger Haken (11) wird von einer schrägen Fläche (11a) gebildet, so dass jeder Haken (11) zunächst auf dem entsprechenden Aufnahmeelement (10) ruht, wenn sich die Halbschalen aus der offenen Position in die Arbeitsposition bewegen, wobei der Haken mit seiner schrägen Fläche (11a) eine elastische Deformation des Aufnahmeelements (10) und/oder des Riegelements (9) mit dem Haken veranlasst, wenn sich die Halbschalen weiter aufeinander zu bewegen, bis die Halbschalen (5, 6) die endgültige Arbeitsposition erreichen, in der sich der Haken in dem Aufnahmeelement verriegelt.

3. Auftragvorrichtung nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Aufnahmeelemente in der Form von Aussparungen in der ersten bzw. zweiten Halbschale ausgebildet sind und die Riegeelemente durch einen elastischen Steg gebildet sind, wobei jeder Haken durch eine schräge Fläche gebildet ist, so dass ein jeweiliger Haken, wenn sich die Halb-

- schalen aus der offenen Position in die Arbeitsposition bewegen, zunächst auf dem entsprechenden Aufnahmeelement ruht, das das elastische Riegellement mit dem Haken auslenkt, wenn sich die Halbschalen weiter aufeinander zu bewegen, bis die Halbschalen (5, 6) die endgültige Arbeitsposition erreichen, in der sich der Haken in dem Aufnahmeelement verriegelt.
4. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** eine kreisförmige Randfläche (7) der ersten bzw. der zweiten Halbschale mit mindestens einer Kreisnut (13) versehen ist und die kreisförmige Randfläche der zweiten bzw. der ersten Halbschale mit mindestens einer ersten kreisförmigen Erhöhung (12) versehen ist, so dass die Kreisnut (13) und die erste kreisförmige Erhöhung (12) einander in der Arbeitsposition in Eingriff nehmen, wodurch eine bessere Abdichtung zwischen den beiden Halbschalen (5, 6) gewährleistet wird, wenn die Auftragvorrichtung in der Arbeitsposition ist.
5. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die erste (5) und/oder die zweite (6) Halbschale an einem jeweiligen Boden mit einer Vielzahl von Verstärkungsrippen (14) versehen sind, die in einer im Wesentlichen senkrecht zu jeder Längsseite der Halbschalen verlaufenden Richtung angeordnet sind, um die gegenüberliegenden Längsseiten zu verbinden.
6. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Auftragvorrichtung an beiden Enden mit einem Abstandhalterelement (15) versehen ist, das ein gleichmäßiges Auftragen des pastenartigen Mediums auf eine Fläche gestattet.
7. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Auslassöffnungen (3) mit unterschiedlichen Durchmessern ausgebildet sind, so dass die Auslassöffnungen in der Nähe der Mittelachse der Auftragvorrichtung mit einem kleineren Durchmesser ausgebildet sind, während der Durchmesser der Auslassöffnungen mit dem Abstand von der Mittelachse zunimmt.
8. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Auftragvorrichtung für ein pastenartiges Medium mit Aufnahmelöchern (16) zur Aufnahme von Hilfswerkzeugen wie Schabern, Spachteln, Klängen, Seitenabstandhaltern, Hubbegrenzern usw. versehen sein kann.
9. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Auftragvorrichtung für ein pastenartiges Medium aus Kunststoff, vorzugsweise PEHD, ausgebildet ist.
10. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der vorhergehenden Ansprüche, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Einlassöffnung der Auftragvorrichtung zum Koppeln mit einem Behälter für ein pastenartiges Medium oder einem Spender für ein pastenartiges Medium ausgeführt ist.
11. Auftragvorrichtung nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 9, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Einlassöffnung der Auftragvorrichtung in der Form einer Hülse ausgebildet ist, deren kreisförmige Innenfläche durch eine Stufe (17) zum Koppeln mit einem Adapter gebildet ist, und ein Eingangsabschnitt (18) der Einlassöffnung der Auftragvorrichtung ist so ausgestaltet, dass er sich verjüngt, um das Einführen des Adapters zu ermöglichen.
12. Satz von Teilen, umfassend eine Auftragvorrichtung für ein pastenartiges Medium nach Anspruch 11 und einen Adapter (19), wobei eine Einlassöffnung (20) des Adapters zum Koppeln mit einem Behälter für ein pastenartiges Medium oder einem Spender für ein pastenartiges Medium ausgeführt ist und eine rohrförmige Auslassöffnung (21) des Adapters umfangsmäßig mit einer zweiten kreisförmigen Erhöhung (22) versehen ist.
13. Satz von Teilen nach Anspruch 12, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die Achse der Einlassöffnung der Auftragvorrichtung in einem Winkel von weniger als 90° bezüglich der Kontaktebene der Halbschalen in der Arbeitsposition in der Querrichtung der Auftragvorrichtung geneigt ist.

Revendications

1. Applicateur de milieu pâteux (1) comprenant une ouverture d'entrée (2) de l'applicateur de milieu pâteux, une pluralité d'ouvertures de sortie (3) pour appliquer un milieu pâteux sur une surface à traiter, et un canal de distribution (4) pour distribuer le milieu pâteux depuis l'ouverture d'entrée de l'applicateur jusqu'aux ouvertures de sortie,

dans lequel l'applicateur de milieu pâteux est formé d'une première demi-coque allongée (5) comprenant quatre parois latérales et un fond, dans laquelle est disposée l'ouverture d'entrée (2) de l'applicateur, et d'une seconde demi-coque allongée (6) comprenant quatre parois latérales et un fond, dans laquelle est agencée une pluralité d'ouvertures de sortie (3),

- caractérisé en ce que** les parois latérales des deux demi-coques présentent au niveau de chaque extrémité ouverte une surface de bord circulaire d'un seul tenant (7), qui, dans la position de travail de l'applicateur, butent l'une contre l'autre de sorte que les demi-coques délimitent un canal de distribution (4), dans lequel les première et seconde demi-coques sont dans chaque cas sur l'un de leurs côtés longitudinaux reliées d'un seul tenant au moyen d'une charnière en film (8) et les première (5) et seconde (6) demi-coques étant respectivement pourvues d'éléments de verrouillage (9) dotés d'un ardil lon et les seconde (6) et première (5) demi-coques étant respectivement dotées d'éléments de réception (10) pour recevoir les éléments de verrouillage (9) de sorte qu'en position de travail de l'applicateur, chaque élément de verrouillage doté de l'ardillon soit verrouillé dans l'élément de réception correspondant.
2. Applicateur selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** les éléments de réception sont formés sous forme d'arcs élastiques (10), qui sont formés d'un seul tenant sur les seconde (6) et première (5) demi-coques, respectivement, et un ardil lon respectif (11) est formé par une surface oblique (11a), de telle sorte que, lorsque les demi-coques se déplacent de la position ouverte à la position de travail, chaque ardil lon (11) repose d'abord sur l'élément de réception (10) correspondant, l'ardillon avec sa surface oblique (11a) provoquant une déformation élastique de l'élément de réception (10) et/ou de l'élément de verrouillage (9) doté de l'ardillon lorsque les demi-coques continuent à se déplacer l'une vers l'autre jusqu'à ce que les demi-coques (5, 6) atteignent la position de travail finale, dans laquelle l'ardillon se verrouille dans l'élément de réception.
3. Applicateur selon la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** les éléments de réception sont formés sous forme de renforcements dans les seconde et première demi-coques, respectivement, et les éléments de verrouillage sont formés par une bande élastique, chaque ardil lon étant formé par une surface oblique de telle sorte que, lorsque les demi-coques se déplacent de la position ouverte à la position de travail, un ardil lon respectif s'appuie d'abord sur l'élément de réception correspondant qui, lorsque les demi-coques continuent à se déplacer l'une vers l'autre, dévie l'élément de verrouillage élastique avec l'ardillon, jusqu'à ce que les demi-coques atteignent la position de travail finale, dans laquelle l'ardillon est verrouillé dans l'élément de réception.
4. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce qu'**une surface de bord circulaire (7) de la première et de la seconde demi-coque, respectivement, est pourvue d'au moins une rainure circulaire (13) et la surface de bord circulaire des seconde et première demi-coques, respectivement, est pourvue d'au moins une première crête circulaire (12), de telle sorte que, dans la position de travail, la rainure circulaire (13) et la première crête circulaire (12) entrent en prise l'une avec l'autre, assurant ainsi une meilleure étanchéité entre les deux demi-coques (5, 6) lorsque l'applicateur se trouve dans la position de travail.
5. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** la première (5) et/ou la seconde (6) demi-coque sont pourvues, au niveau d'un fond respectif, d'une pluralité de nervures de renforcement (14) agencées dans une direction sensiblement perpendiculaire à chaque côté longitudinal des demi-coques de manière à relier les côtés longitudinaux opposés.
6. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** l'applicateur est pourvu, au niveau des deux extrémités, d'un élément espaceur (15) qui permet une application uniforme du milieu pâteux sur une surface.
7. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** les ouvertures de sortie (3) sont formées avec des diamètres différents, de telle sorte que les ouvertures de sortie à proximité de l'axe central de l'applicateur soient formées avec un diamètre plus petit, tandis que le diamètre des ouvertures de sortie augmente avec la distance depuis l'axe central.
8. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** l'applicateur de milieu pâteux peut être pourvu de trous de réception (16) pour recevoir des outils auxiliaires, tels que des grattoirs, des truelles, des lames, des entretoises latérales, des limiteurs de course, etc.
9. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** l'applicateur de milieu pâteux est formé de matières plastiques, de préférence de PEHD.
10. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications précédentes, **caractérisé en ce que** l'ouverture d'entrée de l'applicateur est conçue pour être accouplée avec un récipient de milieu pâteux ou un distributeur de milieu pâteux.
11. Applicateur selon une quelconque des revendications 1 à 9, **caractérisé en ce que** l'ouverture d'entrée de l'applicateur est formée sous la forme d'un manchon, dont la surface circulaire interne est formée par un gradin (17) pour accouplement avec un

adaptateur et une partie d'entrée (18) de l'ouverture d'entrée de l'applicateur est configurée de manière à être effilée pour faciliter l'insertion de l'adaptateur.

12. Kit de pièces comprenant un applicateur de milieu pâteux selon la revendication 11 et un adaptateur (19) présentant une ouverture d'entrée (20) de l'adaptateur, conçu pour être accouplé à un récipient de milieu pâteux ou un distributeur de milieu pâteux, et une ouverture de sortie tubulaire (21) de l'adaptateur, qui est pourvue circonférentiellement d'une seconde crête circulaire (22). 5 10
13. Kit de pièces selon la revendication 12, **caractérisé en ce que** l'axe de l'ouverture d'entrée de l'applicateur est incliné d'un angle inférieur à 90° par rapport au plan de contact des demi-coques en position de travail dans la direction transversale de l'applicateur. 15

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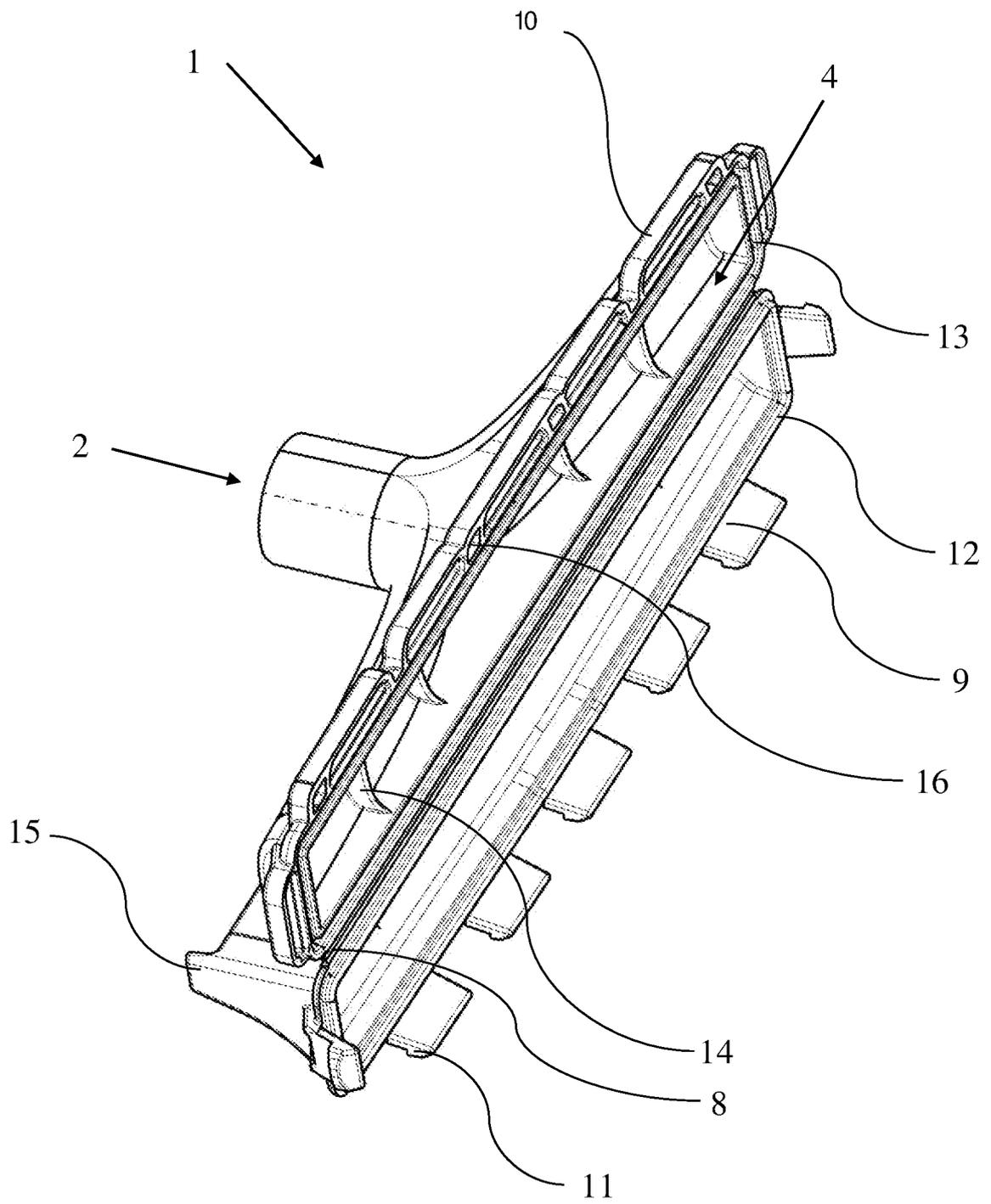


Figure 1

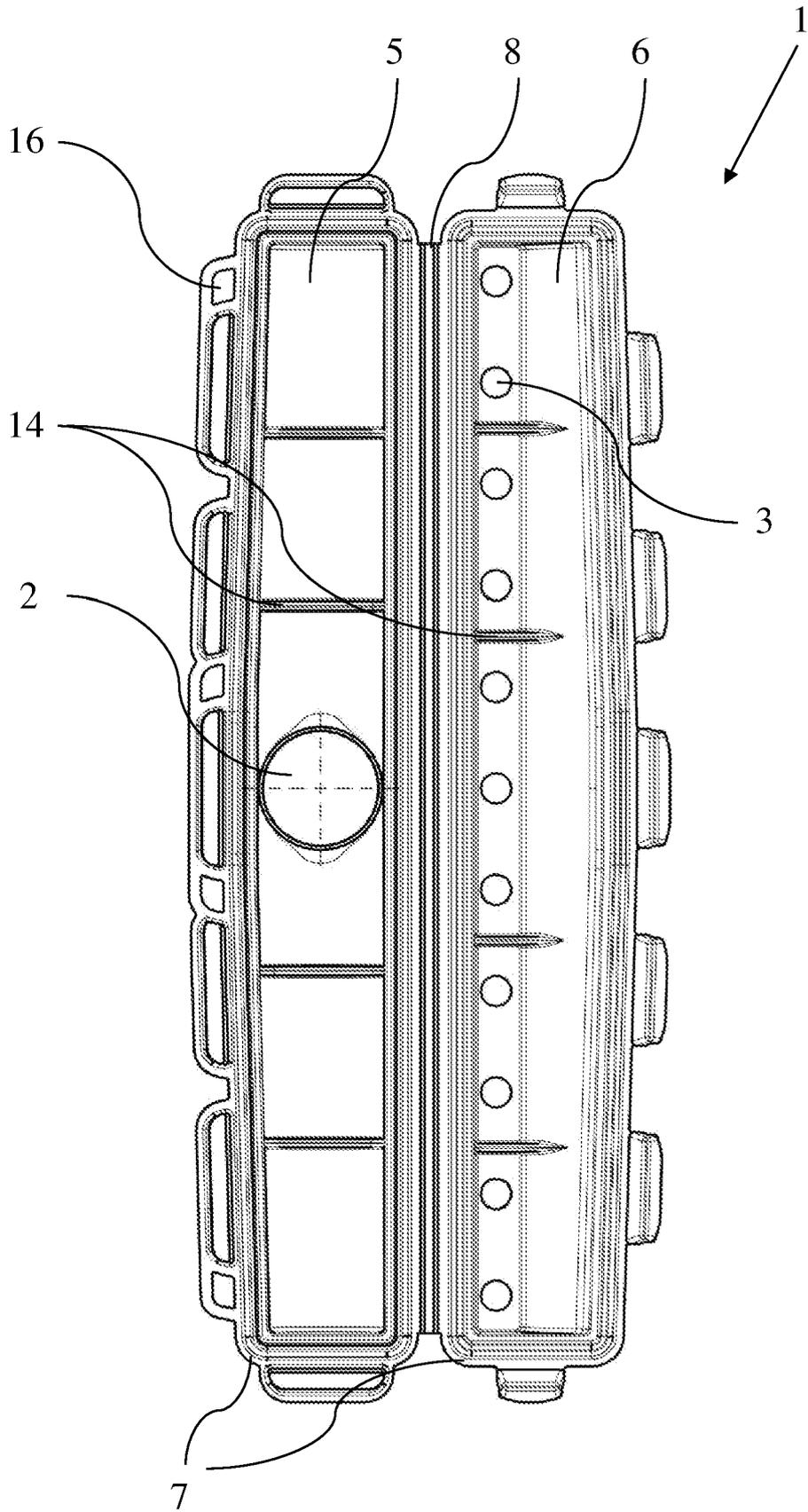


Figure 2

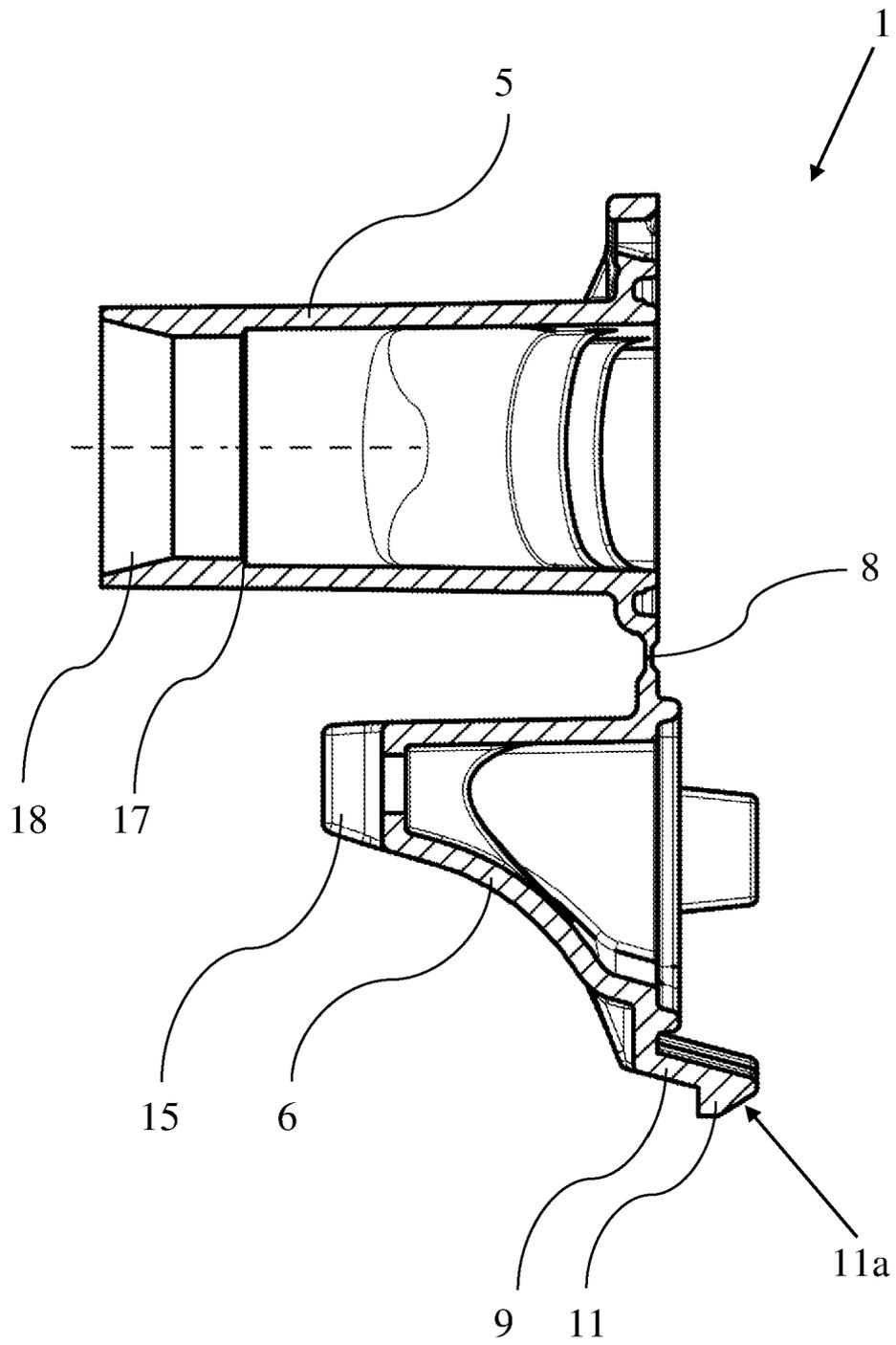


Figure 3

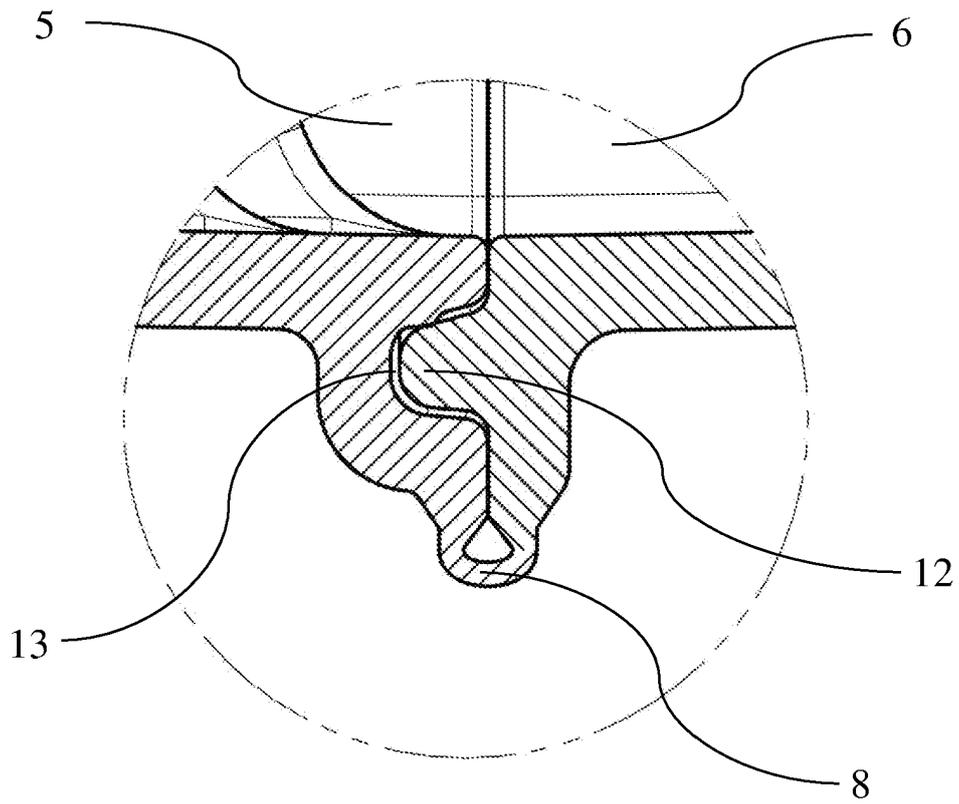


Figure 4

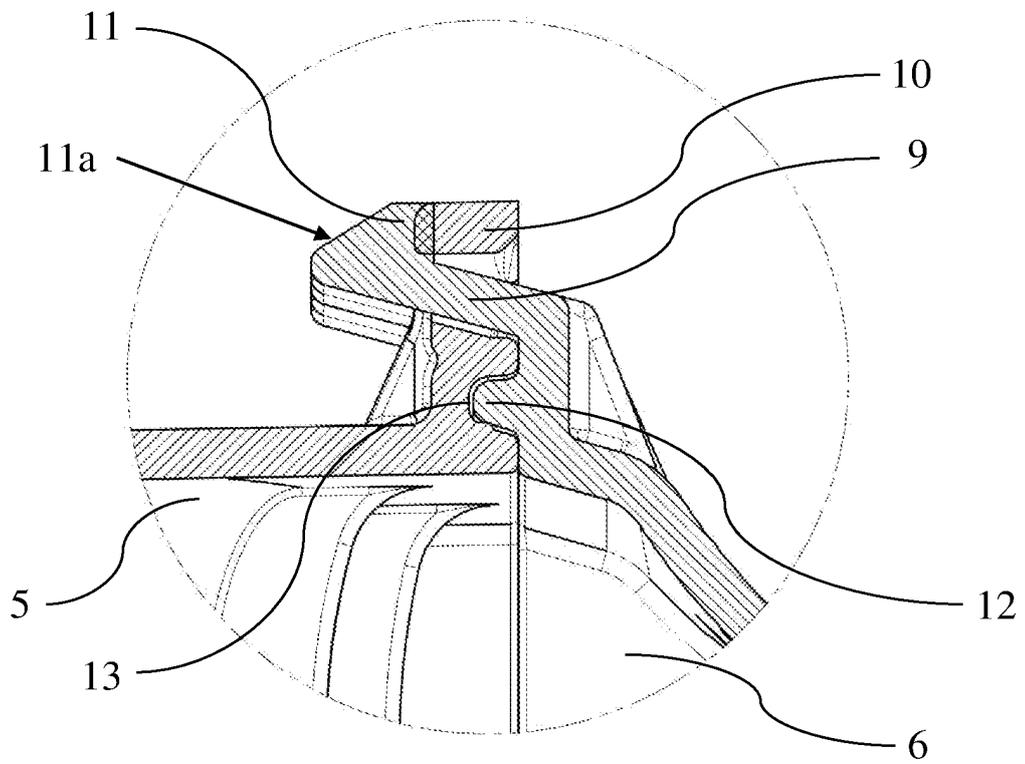


Figure 5

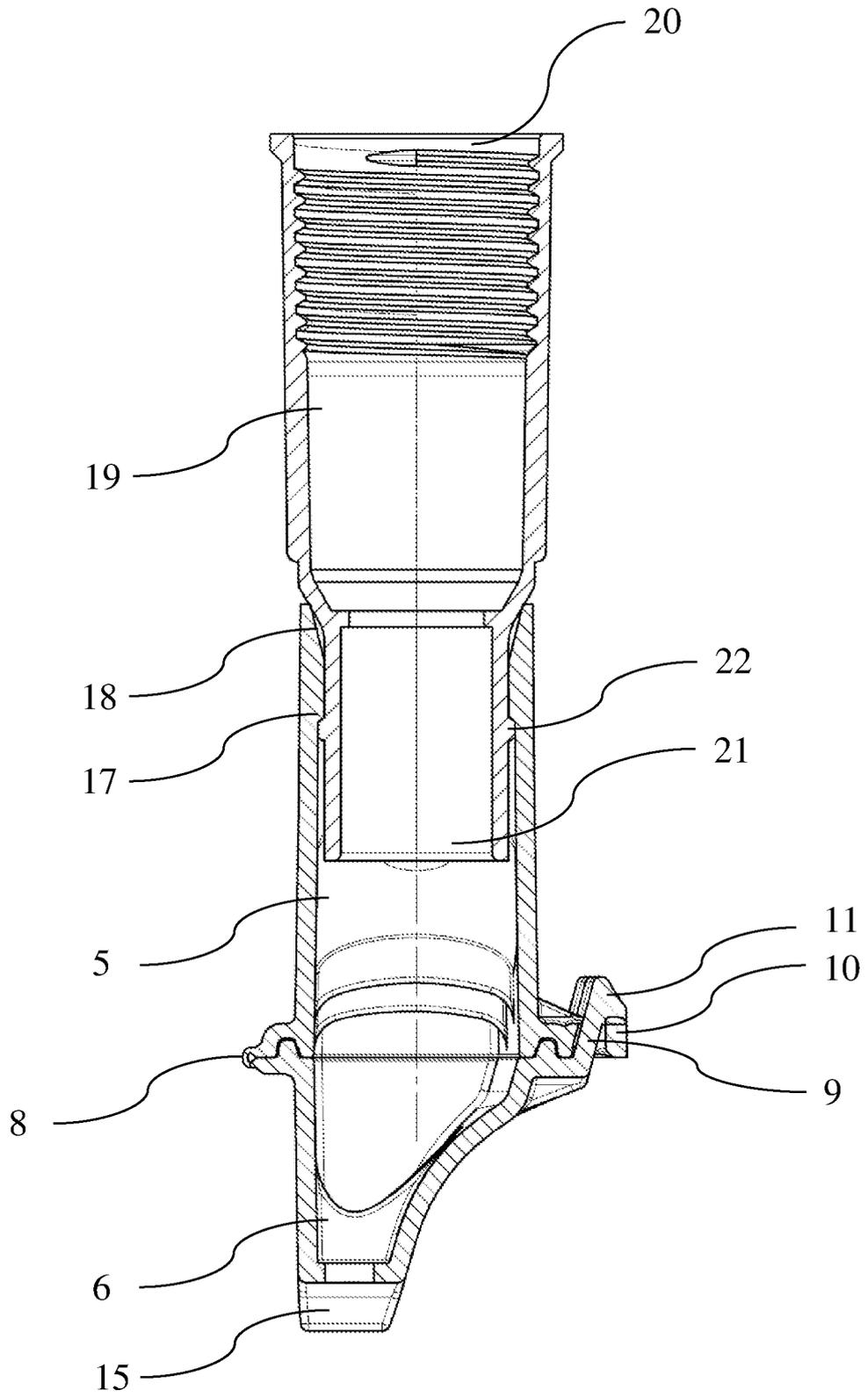


Figure 6

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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